

Cambridge Police Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies  
reported in Cambridge Newspapers  
summarised by  
Mike Petty

Most of these stories originally appeared in the Cambridge Daily/Evening/News or the  
Cambridgeshire Weekly News, its sister title.

They are supplemented by some articles published in the  
Cambridge Independent Press or Cambridge Chronicle

Most were featured in my 'Looking Back' column in the Cambridge News from 1996-2014

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' of which this is a small section is published online at  
[bit.ly/CambsCollection](http://bit.ly/CambsCollection)

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised.  
I hope to publish these online one day. If you would like them in the meantime then please get in  
touch.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library  
where there are many other indexes dating back to 1770.

They also have detailed newspaper cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the  
1960s.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check

There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.

I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

Please make what use of these notes that you may. Kindly remember where they came from

See my website – [www.mikepetty.org.uk](http://www.mikepetty.org.uk) for further notes.

Mike Petty, Stretham

2017

## Cambridge Police Scrapbook 1897 to 1990.

Note:

There are many more stories relating to the police in *A Cambridgeshire Scrapbook 1897 to 1990*  
<https://archive.org/details/CambridgeshireScrapbook18971990>

*A Cambridge Crime Scrapbook 1897 to 1990* will be issued separately

1897 02 06

Charity Commission scheme; corporation get entire use of Spinning House to expand police station, rebuild one day 1897 02 06 CDN

1898

Detachment of mounted police formed [3.1]

1898 06 09

Cambridge town council accepted a design for new police and fire brigade buildings, which it is proposed to erect upon the Spinning House site. If the new station is erected the whole of the existing buildings, which are not conspicuous for their beauty, will be removed, with the exception of the chief constable's house, and the fire station and firemen's quarters will be completely isolated from the police building. A new main entrance will be erected and it is suggested that the present stone gateway to the police station should be removed to the back entrance in Downing place. The only elevation of any architectural pretensions will be the main facade towards St Andrews's street. A copula forming a central feature will serve as a "look-out" in connection with the fire station. The plans include provision for a mortuary CDN 1898 06 09

1898 07 11

At the Standing joint committee Mr H.G. Fordham proposed that the appointment of Parish Constables should be discontinued. In 1873 the Cambridgeshire quarter sessions had decided to continue them. That was 28 years ago and he contended that since then they had been rendered unnecessary. There was a considerable amount of friction and expense and they were of no real use except in rare instance. Six parishes in Cambridgeshire made no appointment. In Balsham the parish constable had not done duty for 15 years, and in Weston Colville no duty had been done for 40 years. In seventeen parishes there was no remuneration at all. In others the expenses varied from £10 downwards. The Chief Constable having said a good word for the parish constables expressed a hope that their appointment would be renewed 1898 07 11

1899 04 19

The days of the Cambridge Spinning House are numbered. It is to be pulled down in order that a house of detention after the best approved modern ideas may arise on its site. There is no more stirring chapter in the history of modern Cambridge than that which this forbidding looking building in St Andrews Street recalls. It speaks of many things which the Cambridge of today is glad to forget. It is an ugly monument of an ugly feud between the authorities of the University and town. The feud is dead: would that the razing to the ground of the Spinning House were sufficient to efface all memory of it 1899 04 19

1899 04 19

An inquiry held heard that half of the Spinning House was occupied as a police station. It had been built about 1840 and was far from up to date. There was no difference between the accommodation for male and female prisoners, and any women that might be kept in the police station all night had to be attended to by police constables on duty, there being no female warders or matrons. The cells were clean and in good order but were quite inadequate for the requirements of the town 1899 04 19

1901 10 07

New police & fire stations open on site of Spinning House, St Andrews Street. The police station is part of the machinery which Society has devised for its own protection and for inflicting punishment upon wrong doers. In the golden age there will be no use for Police Stations, and the fine building of which Cambridge has just witnessed the opening may justifiably be converted into a Free Library. There is no virtue in locking up a wrong doer in an ugly prison and the architect of the new station, Mr John Morley, has designed a building which is an ornament to the town. The cells are not luxurious but they are not stifling. It is true the building has cost a good deal but is excellent value for money CDN 1901 10 07

1901 12 06

The arrest was reported from Queenstown of a Cambridge man on a warrant charging him with felony. Detective-Sergt Bryne effected the arrest on the outward-bound American steamer. The accused was travelling as a saloon passenger under an assumed name. As is well-known the man held a position of trust at Messrs Foster's bank and was actively identified with politics and parochial movements in the Abbey Ward. His disappearance from Cambridge has been the subject of many rumours. Detective Marsh has been sent to Queenstown to bring the accused to Cambridge 01 12 06

1902 01 25

The Cambridge Watch Committee have disapproved of the holding of the annual Police dinner, feeling that it is not desirable that the police should be put into the position of seeking subscriptions from the public towards the meal. There are many people in the town who think kindly of the police and would gladly subscribe towards affording them a break in their laborious and somewhat monotonous lives. The CDN is ready to afford this generous feeling outlet and, providing the Committee offer no objection, a fund will be opened in our columns. There is no doubt that the proposal to give 'Robert' a treat of this kind will commend itself to the people of Cambridge CDN 1902 01 25

1902 05 10

The funeral of P.C. Thompson of the Cambridge police was conducted on military lines. His comrades, accompanied by members of the Borough Fire Brigade, marched to Sturton Street. As the coffin was brought out of the house the police band played the death march in "Saul" and Drum Major Inspector Johnson, his staff draped with crepe, led the hearse & mourning coaches in procession to Mill Road cemetery. The route was lined by people and many were the manifestations of sympathy with the mourners. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr Ellis Merry. CDN 1902 05 10

1902 12 03

Well-deserved tributes were paid to the excellent work by Detective-Sergeant Marsh. It has been owing to his sagacity and promptness that a number of exceedingly slippery rogues have been brought to book during the past few months. His capture of the man sentenced for stealing the cash box from Messrs Stearn was made in the nick of time – a few minutes later and he would have been too late. One especially noticeable feature about his methods is his scrupulous fairness to accused persons, a matter of the highest importance in the proper administration of justice CDN 1902 12 03

1904 11 10

The King's birthday is one of those occasions upon which a certain section of the 'Varsity and Town consider it necessary to turn themselves into public nuisances. This year they avoided the Borough police by making a raid on Chesterton. The mob made tracks for Midsummer Common with the object of having a bonfire. Several hundred crossed Jesus Green bridge where a council of war was held. Carlyle Road was mentioned as leading to fuel for the fire but a number of the belligerents made an incursion down a private road. Several fences were broken down and flames shot into the air as the surreptitiously-obtained timber was thrown on to the fire. No police appeared on the scene, though a number of members of the Force were on duty on the borough side of the river CDN 10.11.1904

1905 11 09

Sir - On 1st March 1904 a sergeant of the Metropolitan Police, sent to Cambridge on the occasion of the King's visit, was violently assaulted and kicked by an undergraduate. After six months' illness, during which his pay amounting to £54 was paid by the Borough of Cambridge, he was pensioned off as unfit for service. On 5th November 1904 a constable, having taken one undergraduate into custody, was brutally attacked by others and was left insensible. He has been on the sick list ever since and pensioned off. All members of the University should co-operate to prevent such scenes of riot and disorder - H.M. Taylor, Trinity College. 05 11 09

1905 11 09

It is almost incredible that any undergraduate should so far demean himself as to treat a policeman with the blackguard violence of a hooligan. If we have hitherto been inclined to take a lenient view of the occasional destruction of property it was because we felt sure the grosser acts were the work of town loafers who were encouraged by thoughtless undergraduates. But those who took part in gutting a shop should suffer the legal penalty and not be saved from imprisonment by University authorities. - Cambridge Review 05 11 09a

1905 11 23

P.C. Broughton, a young constable, was injured during the disgraceful 'rag' of November 5th last year. He was kicked whilst on the ground and injured by an undergraduate whom it had been impossible to trace. He had been sent to a Convalescent Home for two months and medical experts called in but had suffered a spinal injury and would not work again. He had been strong but was now crippled and doubled up. He was granted a pension equal to the full pay he was receiving at the time - £1 5s 7d a week. 05 11 23

1907 03 15

William Maltby of Devonshire Road joined the police force in 1849, rising to the rank of inspector. In those days constables wore top hats instead of helmets with cut-away coats around which they wore a belt of piratical proportions. There were only 30 constables, two inspectors and a superintendent whose headquarters were in Emmanuel Road. 07 03 15

1908 08 15

John Deeks joined the Cambridge Police Force in 1887 when it had strength of 34 - half of what it is today. In those days policemen were paid two shillings and sixpence to attend fires so they were strongly represented at each outbreak, with officers attracted from their usual beats. Men were not often 'run in' because of drunkenness but now they are summonsed if they attempted to fight. He became a Police Court Missionary working with habitual drunks who often signed the pledge but broke it within an hour CWN 08 08 15 07

1909 02 12

Cambridge Police has a special staff of men employed in looking after unoccupied houses. The intending burglar who usually watches the policeman on his beat pass the empty property he intends to break into cannot now know when he may be dropped upon. Last year 802 residents used the service and except for one house in Madingley Road, where the gates were locked and police unable to obtain access, there has been no robbery from an unoccupied house of which they have been given notice. CWN 09 02 12

1909 07 23

Police band visits to Coton Flower show - accidents CWN 09 07 23

1910

Debate on whether to give police a day of rest - would need 5 extra policemen at cost of 23/7 (£1.18) a week (granted 1911 04 01) [1.8, 1.9, 2.22, 3.6]

1910

Police start welfare scheme & supply boots to 160 poor children[3.3]

1910 03 04

Few have any clear idea of the variety and extent of the services which the police render. They see the policeman about the streets, patrolling his beat or standing on point duty and have no hesitation in appealing to him in almost any little dilemma. But their annual report shows they keep a watchful eye upon temporarily unoccupied houses, visit common lodging houses, attend fires, take charge of lost property, inspect stage and hackney carriages and attend to dangerous dogs. There are 54 constables, average age 36 years. CWN 10 03 04h & i

1912 01 19

Telephonic communication between the police-station and certain police-officers' houses was discussed. Some police houses were simply hired in an ordinary manner and they might have to move the telephone when a new policeman came to a village and took a different house to his predecessor. At Shelford the call office was only about 20 yards from the constable's house, but you couldn't call him. The Chief Constable said he didn't want a constable sitting in the house waiting to be called. His business is to be outside, looking after the property in the village. 12 01 19

1912 03 22

At present a police constable is entitled to a pension after serving 25 or 26 years on the beat. This is as much as most men are able to stand, including as it does a share of night work in all weathers. Policemen who are past their prime, unless by unusual intelligence they have risen from the ranks, are of little use in the Force and the value of their retention is doubtful. But to reduce their pay is astounding. The present sum was fixed more than 30 years ago when living was much cheaper, duties were less exacting and men of a much lower grade of intelligence were considered suitable. A man must be hard put to it to accept such terms. – 12 03 22c

1912 03 29

The last meeting of the old Town Council rejected proposals to reduce policemen's wages. Thirty years ago any burly ruffian that could knock a man down was supposed to be good enough for a policeman. Today police must be courteous and tactful, able to render first-aid and resourceful in emergency. The presence of thousands of undergraduates made the work more trying and it says much for the present Force that even during a 'rag' there is seldom any friction of a vicious character between the 'Varsityman and 'Robert'. They must be incorruptible: often a policeman is offered a bribe to 'say nothing about it'. Yet in Cambridge the commencing wage is lower than at Oxford or Peterborough. 12 03 29b

1912 05 30

Borough Extension brings Police Force into the new areas [2.24]

1912 05 31

Police force report 12 05 03i

1912 07 19

The National Insurance Act has seen a great rush of insurable people to join approved societies and applications for cards have reached stupendous figures. Cambridge General Benefit Society was one of the first to be approved and have admitted 100 new members. To their disgust members of the Cambridge Police Force have been called on to contribute their fourpence a week under the Act. This is difficult to understand as they get almost full pay during sickness and receive free medical attendance from the Police Surgeons 12 07 19f & g

1912 11 09

Police accused of violence every Guy Fawkes night: always complaints of heartless & brutal conduct of police - inhuman monsters who dash hither & thither - but what are respectable people doing out [3.1,c 39.3.1]

1912 10 04

Cambridge Prison Governor's annual report – 12 10 04i

1912 11 09

Police accusations and problems on November 5<sup>th</sup> [3.1]

1912 12 12

William Dobson, successor to the late Mr A.H. Hawke as Governor of the Cambridge Prison, was born in a police station in 1859 and has been connected with crime and criminals all his life. He was previously Chief Warder in the Borstal Institution at Feltham and believes that even judges do not realise what the system is doing to reduce crime. Mr Dobson married 25 years ago and has six children. His two eldest sons are soldiers and one of his brothers is Chief Inspector of the Newcastle City Police. 12 12 12f

1912 12 20

An inquest into a man who died at Cambridge gaol while awaiting trial was told he was a wheelwright who'd complained of pains in his insides for a long time. He'd suffered a haemorrhage. His wife said she'd had every opportunity to see him and that he'd been as kindly treated 'as though he had been a gentleman'. The officers, governor and doctor had spared nothing to save his life 12 12 20j

1913 02 21

Chief constable annual report police 13 02 21 p8 CIP

1913 08 04

Ratepayers Association question time spent on police band [3.2]

1913 08 16

Lady policemen – recent suggestion 13 08 16

1913 10

Suffragette fire Storeys Way, policeman arrests his own niece [346.1.9]

1914 07 17

Women constables were needed in Cambridge to look after the girls. It would be a most valuable innovation if they had one or two women to go about at night and influence the young girls about in the streets and take them home. There was a need of them in public parks and open spaces. Their work would be entirely in connection with women, girls and young children, Miss Cochrane said. But no other Guardians agreed. 14 07 17 p8

1914 11

Special constables established, not more than 50, during WWII was 1,067 [3.11][4.3]

1915 10 22

Chas Stretten retires after 27 years Chief Constable Cambs 15 10 15 p6; Chief Constable, Stretten resignation; details of his service 15 10 22 p5, Chief Constable of Cambs' duties to be taken by Chief Constable of Hunts – criticism 15 10 29 p7 – CIP

1915 11 05

Special constables sworn in for emergencies – list of names 15 11 05 p6

1916 06 28

Police Dogs: an account for the keep of dogs totalled £7 14s. "for the keep of dogs for three months." Certain members of the police force were paid so much per week for keeping certain police dogs. He believed there were four dogs and they were kept by the policemen living in outlying parts of the town. They were Airedales, and came from Major Richardson. The dogs were used for police purposes at night. The police constables who had care of them reported that the dogs were extremely useful. They were only used in the outlying parts of the town, and gave warning to the police if anyone was skulking behind hedges, etc. They were not in any way pets, but trained dogs, which enabled a smaller force of police to do the work 16 06 28 CIPof

1916 10 12

A presentation was made to Mr. C.J.D. Stretten, M.C.V.O in recognition of his long service as Chief Constable of the County, which post Mr. Stretten resigned nearly three months ago. 16 10 12 CIPof

1917 10

Police wages raised to 10/- (50p) a week [1.17]

1918 05 04

The Watch Committee had just decided to appoint two police-women to combat girls ogling soldiers [3.12]

1918 05 08

Morality of Cambridge. Immorality was rife in the town. It was not only the young girls who were the offenders, it was also the older married women whose husbands were very often on active service. 18 05 08 CIPof

1918 10 23

Chesterton road police station bought by council for £350 at auction Ch 18 10 23 p10

1919 04 02

New County "Chief". Few appointments have met with more general approval than the promotion of Mr. William Varney Webb to the office of Chief Constable of the County of Cambridge. It is a promotion richly and thoroughly deserved, and is but fitting recognition of the services of an officer who has conscientiously and with great ability discharged his duties to the general advantage of the whole County. Besides which his attainment to the highest Police rank in the County must be an incentive to the most humble member of the Force. Mr. Webb, who celebrated his 50th birthday a fortnight ago, joined the Cambridgeshire Constabulary nearly a quarter of a century ago, and he has risen to his present position solely by his own energy and ability 19 04 02 CIPof

1919 07 23

Chief Constable Resigns. Mr Charles Edward Holland, Chief Constable of the Borough of Cambridge since 1894, has placed his resignation in the hands of the Watch Committee of the Borough of Cambridge, to take effect from September 29. Mr Holland has been away for some time on account of ill-health, but was in Cambridge last week to make the necessary police arrangements for the Peace Celebrations. 19 07 23 CIPof – profile – 19 07 23k

1919 08 27

Charles Stretton, former Chief Constable obituary – reviews development of police 19 08 27b

1919 10 08

Presentation to C.E. Holland, Cambridge chief constable retires; the strain of war – 19 10 08f

1919 10 22

New Chief Constable. At a special meeting of the Borough Watch Committee, held on Monday the question of the appointment of a Chief Constable in succession to Mr. C. E. Holland, who retired at



the end of last month, was considered. The committee further interviewed the two final candidates, Supt. A. Hargreaves, who is at present carrying out the duties of Chief Constable at Cambridge, and Supt. John Pearson, of the Wallesey County Borough Constabulary. By a majority, the committee decided to appoint Supt. Pearson 19 10 22 CIPof – 19 10 22c

1920 03 24

Detective Lazarus Marks reminiscences – 45 years a tec, major article – Ch 20 03 24a

1920 07 07

Lazarus Marsh presentation, tribute – Ch 20 07 07e

1920 07 22

Police roll of honour – 30 members joined Colours during the war – list - CDN 20 07 22

1920 10 19

Cambridge fire brigade should be under control of police and worked by permanent staff consisting of one sergeant and five constables, a reduction of one on the present permanent staff. Ten other police could act as auxiliary firemen, being paid for attending fires, ambulance calls etc. - CDN 20 10 19  
Fire service to be handed over to the police - CDN 20 10 22

1921 01 12

Volunteer Firemen's last church parade – photo – 12 01 12b; police take control – 12 01 26a [3.4]

1922 02 11

Special Constables thanked for their work during War; provide motor ambulance for use of townspeople [2.19,1.22, 2.8]

1922 03 27

The Borough Chief Constable's annual report of the Cambridge police establishment for 1921 has now been issued. The strength of the force during the last year was 84. The total number of indictable offences was 151. Ten persons were committed for trial. There are 40 members of the Special Constabulary full equipped with uniform, 90 to whom caps, badges, truncheons and whistles have been issued, and 80 to whom no equipment has been issued who have expressed their willingness to serve in an emergency. 22 03 27

1922 04 29

At the Grand Council of the Red Cross Society and St John Ambulance Association Mrs Hartree raised the question of the police ambulance, and said she understood that the police ambulance was to be kept in the town, and that the Red Cross Ambulance should be used for long distances. However it was seen that the Police ambulance had gone on long distances - Ipswich and Norwich. Mrs Pryor said she knew the ambulance had been used extensively at the Evelyn Nursing Home. The Chief Constable said that the objection to the Red Cross Ambulance was that it was not heated, but they had very quietly informed him that it was heated and the ambulance had been much improved lately 22 04 29

1923 12 22

During the past 28 years a police-court missionary has been engaged in the Cambridge courts. It has for its main object the reformation of all, irrespective of creed, who pass through the police courts. No matter what the offence or how often repeated, none are too young to be helped, no criminal too hardened. Almost every case undertaken means some expenditure. It costs money to provide boots, clothing, travel expenses and entrance fees to homes and institutions. This is a period of numerous charitable appeals but we doubt if any object is more worthy of support and more productive of lasting good 23 12 22



1923 12 24

To the majority of Cambridge people the policeman is a man in blue uniform who apprehends "undergraduates" who ride motor cycles with noisy "silencers". Some 300 of the town's most needy inhabitants however, saw "Robert" in the guise of a cheery soul on the occasion of the distribution of gifts from the proceeds of the Borough police poor and needy funds. Some carried sacks of potatoes on their shoulders, others struggled with sheets of paper in frenzied efforts to wrap meat into neat and really tidy looking parcels. P.C. Hagger who officiated as executioner in the meat department looked thoroughly impressive as with a sharp knife and large chopper he dealt with the meat in a way that would have done credit to the most finished meat purveyor 23 12 24

1925 03

Expenditure of £9,600 on police & fire station approved [1.26]

1925 05 20

Cambridge Poor Law Guardians considered installing wireless apparatus at the Institution. Mrs Keynes said some members were not entirely satisfied that it would be a very great boon to the inmates, partly because of the nature of the entertainment and partly because the best part of the performance usually came on after their inmates had gone to bed. The chairman handed round copies of the "Radio Times" to enable members to see the types of programmes given. Messrs Allin's estimate for a six-valve set with five loud speakers was £65. Chesterton Institution had installed three loud speakers and they were appreciated 25 05 20

1927 01 12

The Chief Constable, Mr R.J. Pearson said that when he came to Cambridge there used to be only one or two policemen on point duty, whereas now there were seven or eight. The force had not been increased so one had to scheme accordingly. During the past year nearly 2,000 bicycles were found in the streets; up to Thursday morning there were 300 at the Police Station but 70 had been claimed that day. One seldom saw a drunken man in the streets and returns showed they were one of the best towns from this point of view. 27 01 12

1928 03 23

Cambridge councillors debated the deplorable behaviour of certain members of the University. In the places of entertainment bad language was frequent and disorderly acts occurred in the streets. At the present time special constables were composed entirely of tradesmen and at certain times of the year the year the Chief Constable should try to enrol University fellows, tutors and dons. The proposal was rejected. 28 03 23

1928 11 20

Members of the Cambridge public who have been mystified by the appearance of wooden huts in various places will be interested to learn they are police telephone boxes. They will be small sub-police stations. Each will contain a telephone in a cupboard which the public can use to get in touch with the Central Police Station, but not for general calls. The box itself will only be accessible to the police. Thirteen are to be erected 28 11 20

1929 01 08

The Chief Constable said that one of the cars now in use was a danger to the life of the Deputy Chief Constable; it had been used every day for the past ten years, so it had done extraordinarily well, but was now positively dangerous to go about in. The cost would be about £150. The question of payment arose and Mr Taylor objected to "this wretched system which is going on all over America of paying by instalments". It was agreed a new car be purchased and paid for now and a sub-committee was appointed to make the purchase. 29 01 08

1930 01 20

Demolition work has begun on the Chesterton Sub-Police station, Mitcham's Corner. At one time the office of the old Chesterton Urban District Council it became a police station on the amalgamation of

Chesterton with the borough. Corner improvements have made its removal desirable. Workmen are hurrying in and out and already it is windowless and completely barren internally. It will be replaced by a police-box. The familiar fire standards are also doomed to disappear; five wall boxes have been erected which will be in operation as soon as the telephones are installed. The change has been made because the public dislikes the breaking of glass in the older standards and prefer to use a telephone case of emergency 30 01 20 [3.5, 3.10]

1930 06 03

A terrible shooting affair occurred at King's College this afternoon. An undergraduate shot a Cambridge Detective-Sergeant twice with an automatic, then shot his tutor through the heart and himself in the head. The tutor died instantly, the undergraduate is not expected to live but the policeman is likely to make a normal recovery. The cause of the trouble is at present a mystery 30 06 03a [2.4]

1930 06 04

The third of the men in the King's College shooting sensation, Det-Sergt Willis, has died from the effects of his wounds. The undergraduate assailant died yesterday from a bullet wound in the head whilst the tutor was killed instantly from a bullet through his heart. The undergraduate was heavily in debt and went away from Cambridge nine days ago on a motor-cycle obtained on credit. He was being interviewed by the policeman when the tragedy occurred 30 06 04

1930 06 04

A London lady has thrown fresh light on the movement of the undergraduates involved in the double shooting at King's College. They had knocked on her door at three in the morning; their clothes were torn and dishevelled and they said they were down and out, having been walking about on the Thames Embankment. They told her they were in trouble at Cambridge, but only through disposing of some property that did not belong to them. Both had pistols and said they would end things then rather than face fresh trouble, but she had dissuaded them. 30 06 04

1930 06 04

The Cambridge Chief Constable paid tribute to Det-Sergt Francis Willis who was shot by a Cambridge undergraduate. He was born in Haverhill and joined the Cambridge force in 1920 serving as a uniformed and a cycle patrol constable until appointed a detective. He had commendations for his plucky action in stopping runaway horses and was the officer concerned in the recent 'Mr H' blackmail case. He had the making of a really great policeman and his death was a great shock. 30 06 04 Memories of Detective Ives who was with Willis – 55 08 09

1930 06 06

Further revelations of the escapades of the undergraduate involved in the King's College shooting have caused University authorities to make searching inquiries into the habits of undergraduates. The lad had surrounded himself with an atmosphere of false romance; he paid frequent visits to the Bell Hotel at Mildenhall. The landlord's daughter described him as 'a very nice boy, but terribly eccentric'. He always came in second-hand cars, but never in the same car twice, and spent time playing the gramophone. He always left in time to get back to college before the gates closed 30 06 06b

1930 12 06

Under the Road Traffic Act Cambridgeshire has been allotted one motor car and three motor cycles to deal with the enormous growth of motor traffic. Such a force should be recruited from men best suited for the job but there is a limit to the number of tasks they can perform. This is another example of the Government forcing local authorities to make the new law work somehow. 30 12 06d

1931 01 16

A memorial tablet was unveiled at Cambridge Police Station to the late Det-Serg Francis Willis, who lost his life in the King's College shooting tragedy. The tablet, carried out in oak and bearing the Borough arms has been placed on the wall by the side of the Roll of Honour, at the foot of the staircase. The public had made a generous response to an appeal for the benefit of his widow and £625 had been raised with another £208 from police federations across the country. 31 01 16e

1931 01 23

Cambridge motorists were on their best behaviour when the Borough Police mobile squad went out for their first time. P.C.s Edwards and Ward are the permanent members of the squad, which is equipped with a fast motor cycle combination. The setting up of the squad has made several changes necessary. The new warrant office is P.C. Ives of the detective department and P.C. Brooks is Coroner's Officer. 31 01 23a. Two mobile patrol vehicles supplied for borough police - motorcycle combination & solo motorcycle; they book lorries [3.5]. Police motorcycle patrols report lorries 31 01 31 [1.12]

1931 02 02

William Carter joined the Cambridge Borough Police Force in 1867 and retired as Inspector in 1894. He had a vivid memory of the opening of the Corn Exchange in 1870 when undergraduates caused a disturbance and six were arrested. At their trial a mob gathered and dashed to King Street, the residence of the Mayor, John Death. But, headed by Carter, the police got there first and shut the gates. Missiles of all kinds were thrown and the fighting continued for some hours. Apart from a battered and torn helmet, Mr Carter was not hurt. 31 02 20j

1932 01 14

Death Charles Edward Holland, Chief Constable for 25 years. 32 01 16 [1.13]

1933 03 27

Police Court Mission work – 33 03 27

1933 09 12

Cambridge gaol – stories of 'wheel', cat & black hole – 33 09 12

1934 04 20

Two cars supplied in place of 4 motorcycles which worn out [1.4]

1934 07 23

Police refused entrance Pembroke College – 34 07 23

1935 08 09

County police oppose appointment of women police constables - would cost £150-£200 pa & represent an inadequate return for the money; they will borrow one from Borough when needed [1.14]

1935 12 21

W.V. Smith, Chief Constable Cambridgeshire retires [1.15]

1936 04 04

The Policewoman's Review includes an article in praise of policewomen by Cambridge Councillor Mrs Rackham. The main obstacles to an increase in their numbers are prejudice against women police constables and ignorance of the work they perform. 36 04 04

1936 04 04

Cambridge Police Force was established about March 1836 when it comprised a superintendent, two inspectors, eight sergeants and 24 constables. Now it consists of the Chief Constable, a Chief Inspector, three Inspectors, eight sergeants, 79 constables, two policewomen and the Fire Brigade

which is made up of a sergeant and six men. Crime was much the same then as now: the 1837 report shows gas lamps were extinguished unlawfully and there was even a case of furious driving, the vehicle being a gig. 36 04 04

1937 02 02

The inadequate accommodation at the Fire and Police Station has now become serious. The proposed changes involve the complete demolition of the Chief Constable's house, garages, policewomen's office and the Remand Home in Downing Lane. There will be a basement for the storage of 320 bicycles and provision for eight motor vehicles together with a workshop with pit for repairs, petrol pumps etc on the ground floor. A flat for the sergeant in charge of the fire brigade will be needed together with a mess room and larder for 12 men, photograph room and offices for the chief constable, coroner and detectives. Above would be ten bedrooms for 12 single men with two bathrooms and various stores. 37 02 02b

1937 02 04

Proposed alterations to the police and fire station were opposed by councillors as it meant compulsory purchase of property belonging to St Andrews Street Baptist Church. The fire station could be moved to Maid's Causeway allowing the police space for the next 50 years. But there did need to be accommodation for constables – recently when a large number of additional men were required for emergency service the Chief Constable had to send motor ambulances and motor patrol vans to whip them up. 37 02 04a & b

1937 04 20

A number of Cambridge police officers have received promotion. Supt. Percy Sharman is in the 23rd year of service, Inspector S.J. Double, Serg W. Ainsworth, Det-Sergt A.E. Robinson, Sergts O. Cornwell, J.Kester, W. Edwards – 37 04 20a

1937 12 16

Cambridge police station is 'more decorative than useful', Inspectors report. The very inadequate accommodation is unsuitable for present day police methods. The building is out of date. The number of records that have to be kept has changed completely and there is no means of storing them. There is no proper place for interviewing prisoners, nowhere for officers to take their food and no provision for housing firemen or single policemen. To ensure communication between police and fire headquarters, they should be on the same spot and under the same chief. Butt Green was unsuitable as it was common ground so the cheapest and best place for a new station is at Parkside. 37 12 16

1938 04 09

The Inspector of Constabulary had stressed the necessity of creating a detective department so that up-to-date methods could be used for the investigation of crime, taking of photographs and keeping of records. But there were no available constables so two more should be appointed. Sergeants should have an increased allowance for the use of their own motor vehicles and bicycles. All members of the force, except one, are qualified to render first aid and the majority can swim, Cambs Chief Constable reported. 38 04 09a & b

1938 07 28

Plans for a new police and fire station on Parkside between Warkworth Terrace and East Road came before an Inspector. It was a central site with good access for engine and ambulances and suitable for future requirements. It comprised five houses with a pork pie factory behind. But owners, Peterhouse, did not want to sell. They were concerned about noise at night and some undesirable 'guests' at the police station reducing the value of adjacent property. 38 07 28

1938 09 05

Ex-Inspector Lazarus March collapsed while on his way to morning at St Paul's church. Born in 1854 at West Wrating, he came to Cambridge on joining the Borough Police Force in 1874. In April 1892 he was appointed detective-constable and, six years later, was promoted detective-sergeant. Then in

April 1920 he obtained the rank of inspector, retiring a few weeks later when he received a public presentation from many friends who appreciated his work. He had lived in Covent Garden for about 50 years. 38 09 05b

1938 09 07

New police houses, garages and recreation room at Shire Hall – 38 09 07 [3.4]

1938 10 07

H.M. Inspector of Police had urged the creation of a detective department so that up-to-date methods could be used in the investigation of crime. But this would involve an increase in the establishment and is not justified at present. The two officers who have received training in detective work will be stationed in the least-busy sub-sections and be ready to help if their skills were needed. Other officers could also be trained, the Police Committee decided. 38 10 07d

1938 12 23

Cambridge Police Poor and Needy Fund ensures many needy families can enjoy a good Christmas dinner and plenty of coal. A large queue formed in Downing Place, young and old, they all carried baskets, jugs and sacks – even pillow slips. A huge pile of potatoes was in one corner and milk was handed out from churns together with butter, tea and cartons of peas. The Police Santa Claus No.1 (the Chief Constable) chatted with people as they came in. Then came a Distribution Day lunch of roast beef and Christmas pudding in the police station. 38 12 23

1939 07 07

The office of parish constable has been abolished in Cambridgeshire. They were no longer necessary for the preservation of the peace or the discharge of public business. They cost about £250 a year and every other county had abolished them. The county had 956 special constables and an additional 168 members of the Observer Corps. 39 07 07

1939 07 20

PC Brookes joined the force in January 1913 and for the first seven years was engaged mainly in plain clothes work with special reference to the campaign against the white slave trade. He also investigated the burning down of a house in Storey's Way when Suffragette troubles were at their height. Afterwards he spent time on cycle patrol, inspector of diseased animals and hackney carriages. Then he became coroner's officer and was engaged in three major tragedies – the King's College shooting affair, the five-fold shooting tragedy in Hinton Avenue and the death of a Sidney Sussex undergraduate. 39 07 20

1941 05 19

Cambridgeshire Chief Constable W. Winter resignation due health – 41 05 19

1941 06 27

New County Chief Constable. Mr. W. H. Edwards. Supt. of the Taunton Division, was appointed Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire, in succession to Mr. W. Winter. Mr. Edwards is 40 years of age. The appointment was made by the committee from a short list of three candidates submitted after the joint sub-committee had interviewed eight of the 22 applicants for the post. Two of the three final nominations were of men aged 33 and 29, both graduates of the Metropolitan Police College. Among the 22 applicants were five Chief Constables from other boroughs. Mr. Edwards' record showed that he joined the Somerset Constabulary in 1920, being appointed a sergeant in 1933 and an inspector in 1939. He has been superintendent of the Taunton Division since August last year. 41 06 21a, 41 06 27 CIPof

1941 12 19

P.c.'s Heroism. "Although warned of the danger of unexploded bombs, P.c. Haynes persisted in going to the aircraft, where he did splendid rescue work, which resulted in the saving of valuable lives." These words are contained in a commendation by the Royal Air Force of P.c. Albert Haynes, of the

Cambridge Division, for gallant conduct and exemplary behaviour when a British aircraft crashed and caught fire. His heroism was reported by the County Chief Constable (Mr. W. H. Edwards) at Saturday's meeting of the Standing Joint Committee, and it was added that the commendation had been promulgated to all members of the Force and "recorded in the constable's personal record. The Chairman (Mr. W. C. Jackson) said the highest commendation was due to P.c. Haynes for his courageous attitude in saving the lives of several airmen 41 12 19 CIPof

1943 02 20

W.E.B. Vail, special constable, 70 – 43 02 20

1943 08 15

Women police in Cambridge [1.16]

1943 12 17

Chief Constable says goodbye. The very great regret of Cambridge Borough Council at the retirement of the Chief Constable (Mr. R. J. Pearson) was expressed at yesterday's meeting by the Mayor (Ald W. L. Briggs). "We all regret," he said "that the time has come when we must part with Mr. Pearson. I think the resolution of the Watch Committee will be accepted by the whole of the council. I was a magistrate a year before Mr. Pearson was appointed, and I should like to bear testimony to his services." Twenty-five years ago, said the Mayor, the police force was in a very different position. It had now been humanised - Mr. Pearson in reply, said he had served under 26 mayors, "My retirement will be a very great wrench. All my life I had been a policeman, I was born in a police building, and I had gone all through the ranks. After service of 41½ years, I feel I ought to give way to a younger man 43 12 17 CIPof 43 12 03, 43 12 16

1944 01 28

New Chief Constable. Mr. B. N. Bebbington, 33-year-old sub-divisional inspector of the Metropolitan Police, is to be the new Chief Constable of Cambridge in succession to Mr. R. J. Pearson Mr. Bebbington joined the Metropolitan Police in 1932, and after serving three years as a constable, was sent to the Metropolitan Police College at Hendon. He had served in different divisions, and had been appointed a sub-divisional Inspector at Tower Bridge 44 01 28 CIPof – photo – 44 02 02

1945 02 11

Police cars now have short wave radios [1.2]

1945 07 16

Special constables stand down – photo – CDN 1945 07 16

1945 11 26

Chief Constable injured and Commandant of 'Specials' killed in collision with armoured car at Melbourn – CDN 1945 11 16; W.H. Edwards dies – CDN 1945 11 26; funeral – CDN 1945 11 30a, inquest – CDN 1945 12 17, CDN 1945 12 18

1945 12 11

Senior police officers A.E. Lilley and Inspector Jacob retire, memories of CID work. King St murder and Sinn Fein arrest – CDN 1945 12 11

1946

Retain police powers under Police Act [2.14]

1947 06 20

On Saturday, after a quarter of a century of service to the public Sergt Policewoman Carnegie Brown, one of the pioneers of women police, goes into retirement and the Cambridge Force loses its senior woman member and the Cambridge public a well-known figure. The history of women police has evolved during her lifetime. One of the earliest policewomen in the country, starting at a time when



women police were not generally recognised by local authorities, Miss Brown has done much to override any prejudice that might have been held at the time and now has the satisfaction of knowing that women police are considered an essential part of the police service. In the early days women police did only welfare work, such as helping patch up matrimonial difficulties. Today they handle all matters connected with women and children who are involved in any way with the police c47 06 20

1948

Fire & ambulance services previously undertaken by Borough police taken over by County Council [3.6]

1948 05 01

The Chief Constable's report for 1947 discusses the difficulty of getting recruits. He says: "A female civilian engaged in a clerical capacity in Local Government is paid 3s 1½d per hour at the age of 32 whereas a married man joining the police will at 32 be receiving 2s 9 ½ d per hour, and this figure includes his rent and boot allowance. In effect a married police constable may be working alongside an unmarried female typist in the Headquarters, doing a more responsible job for 4d an hour less. If the civilian clerk was a man he would receive 1s 1½ d an hour more than the police constable c48 05 01

1948 11 24

An interesting feature of the Cambridge Accident Prevention Council exhibition is the relaying to the Guildhall of a commentary of the conduct of road users given from a police patrol car touring the town. Members of the public are invited to accompany the commentator in the patrol car. Though police radio is not yet in use in Cambridge special arrangements have been made to fit apparatus which will also be used when the general system comes into operation c48 11 24

1949 03 14

Police & low pay - less than £5 a week [1.20]

1949 04 16

A police radio network covering Cambridgeshire, the Isle of Ely, Huntingdonshire and Peterborough has come into operation. Now within a few minutes of any incident being reported the nearest cruising police cars can be speeding to the spot. Radio will help greatly in car theft cases, enabling descriptions of missing vehicles to be circulated in a few seconds over a wide area. The Fire Brigade is also in the scheme. The master station through which the whole scheme is controlled is situated at County Police Headquarters, Castle Hill, Cambridge c49 04 16. Operational in 1950 [3.7, 1.27]

1951 02 21

Mrs Jean P. Silver has the distinction of being the first woman to be accepted as a special constable for Cambridge. She will be issued with a uniform and receive a course of instruction in police work generally. Her work will consist of help to regular policewomen, at office work, enquiries, matters affecting women and girls, and patrol duties. The Cambridge police force requires a limited number of women special constables. They must be over the age of 30, and physically fit c51 02 21

1952 12 04

Police pillar box opens - messages passed to cars by radio [2.7]

1953 03 16

The Mayor (Ald S.T. Bull) formally opened the first two police houses to be erected in Cambridge. He said that some new recruits come from other parts of the county and they, like most human beings, marry and have families. There are three police houses in the area but they have no indoor sanitation. The new houses are easy to run, with light and pleasant room. There are 16 police houses being built and they will be sited at Walpole Road, Queen Edith's Way, Fulbourn Road and Coleridge Road. 53 03 16

1954 05 07

Cambridgeshire Police have been experimenting with a radio equipped motor cycle. The wireless equipment supplied by Pye Telecom gives the same facilities as that fitted to police cars. A patrolling motor cycle officer hears his call on the set; pulls up and then can receive his message through a loudspeaker, or alternatively through the hand microphone he uses for his own transmission. The range of the radio is sufficient to cover any part of the county. If adopted it would enable motor cycles to be used for many duties which at present require radio cars. 53 05 07

1955 07 26

Cambridge police may use 'Vespa' motorcycles to combat the shortage of officers and reduce overtime. They are currently under-strength but by using police on Vespas on the outskirts of the city could increase mobility at a reduced cost. It would cost £1,440 to purchase eleven machines together with £300 for clothing and equipment and £600 for petrol but would enable a saving of £4,000 a year. 55 07 26

1955 08 09

Memories of Detective Ives 55 08 09

1955 09 15

Police Vespa picture – 55 09 15bb

1955 09 24

Police issued with motor scooters – cartoon – 55 09 24a

1956 10 12

To some he is an enemy, to others a music-hall joke but to the vast majority of the public the village constable is a familiar and reassuring figure – the man who knows what to do when things go wrong. He attracts little of the glamour usually given to the C.I.D. or the high-speed radio-controlled precision machinery of his fellow-officers, yet he remains the most important man in the police service. But although he is so often seen pedalling along a country lane, the public idea of his full duties is very scanty. 56 10 12a b c

1956 12 04

If you have seen a street fight and want to report it or are a motorist lost in Cambridge and want to know your way, it is simple. You go to the nearest Police Pillar, open the door and pick up the telephone inside. At once you are in touch with the information room at police headquarters. The Mayor made the first 'emergency' call from the Police Pillar in Drummer Street and within minutes a sleek black saloon containing two stalwart policemen drew up. 56 12 04

1958 03 01

Harry Newell has served as a special policeman since the time of the General Strike in 1926. He has been on call at any time of day or night, has attended parades and been liable to mobilisation in time of national emergency. Now, at 68 years of age, he thinks it time to hand in his uniform. He still works regularly in his cycle and car hire business 58 03 01

1959 09 17

Cambridge Police hold an identification parade about four times a year. They invite members of the public who happen to be passing the station to take part or draw people from nearby places of employment where the management have agreed to co-operate. They need people as similar as possible to the suspect. If he has a wooden leg then the parade is lined up with their legs covered by a blanket and all wear eye patches if the suspect has only one eye. 59 09 17

*1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date*

1960 07 01

For more than a year now, Cambridgeshire police patrol cars have been fitted with 35mm cameras mounted behind the windscreen. The photographs of road offenders in action have been used to obtain several convictions of careless drivers. Far more pictures are taken than actually used in prosecutions and constables are encouraged to use the cameras on every possible occasion. It also saves time waiting for a photographer to be sent out from Cambridge to record details of a road accident 60 07 01d

1960 07 14

A four day manhunt for 'Gipsy Jack' ended when he was found in a secret hideout inside his mother's hut in the gipsy encampment near Oakington where he had been since he shot and battered a woman in the corner of a cornfield. Superintendent John du Rose of Scotland Yard realised the old railway carriage was shorter inside than out and pulled away a chest of drawers from an old wooden partition. But 'Gipsy Jack' shot himself in the head with a shotgun before police could break in. 60 07 18a 60 07 14 60 07 18 60 07 18a

1961 01 20

When at full strength Cambridge City Police Force numbers 161, including six women officers. New constables spend their first three weeks on night duty as this is the best time to get to know the district without the confusion of traffic or pedestrians. They patrol on foot in the busier areas and on bicycles further from the centre. An observant policeman on his beat notices small details such as the man with the bulky overcoat, the ladder that has been moved or the obvious unfamiliarity of a driver or motor cyclist with his vehicle. The main task during the day is maintaining an even flow of traffic, sorting out jams and directing motorists into parking spaces. 61 01 20a & b & c

1961 06 30

Cambridge Special Constabulary augments the understaffed police force in basic duties such as traffic control, first aid or patrolling a beat and are often on duty at May Races, Poppy Day, Guy Fawkes Night and elections. They are not forced to give their services but do what they can when they can. Their average age is 43 years and they come from all walks of life. One spent time in the navy, another joined because a child was murdered near his home. All enjoy the companionship, meeting the public and feeling they are doing something useful 61 06 30e

1962 01 20

A former Grenadier guardsman and policeman has set up a personal bodyguard service in Cambridge. He and his staff will be available for bodyguarding 24 hours a day, providing a personal service as well as working for firms. The job does not necessarily mean guarding large sums of money: they also make the service available to people who live on their own and who need protection. For security reasons he can't say how many men he has on the staff or who they are. He himself is a former Isle of Ely policeman who won the military medal for bravery in the Italian campaign. 62 01 20

1963 03 13

Police motor scooter fleet – photo – 63 03 13

1963 12 13

Police Bill envisages new force for city & county [4.1] F. Drayton Porter appointed Chief Constable of both City & County forces [3.8]

1964 02 10

With the words "V.Q.4 mobile", a large car swings from the yard of Cambridge police station. But unlike television's "Z-Cars" this V.Q. is inconspicuous. There are no flashing signs, bells or gongs and the two men inside are in civilian clothes. If you are walking the Cambridge streets in the early hours of the morning, the chances are they will pull up and ask what you are doing. Sometimes they spend so much time interviewing people they don't have time to travel very much. The job may not be glamorous but it helps prevent crime 64 02 10a

1964 02 14

Identi-kit comes to Cambridge [4.2]

1964 11 27

Special constables celebrate 50th anniversary – history – 64 11 27a

1964 12 04

Frederick Drayton Porter, Cambridgeshire's Chief Constable has 30 years' experience and vivid memories of the 18 murder cases he has investigated in Nottinghamshire where there were 14,000 indictable offences last year. By contract in Cambridge there were 2,300 crimes, of which a large proportion concerned cycles. Traffic and parking is the major problem. Since the introduction of parking meters the movement of traffic is much better, but a policeman should be able to tell a motorist where to park, he says. 64 12 04

1965

Drugs squad set up when drugs menace first began to emerge on streets 84 06 15 [4.12]

1965 01 26

City & County forces amalgamated with others to form Mid Anglia Constabulary [3.9]

1965 07 12

Traffic wardens on point duty for first time, relieve policemen – 65 07 12a, b

1966 11 07

Police new HQ at Parkside, plans unveiled – 66 11 07

1967 01 26

Soon personal radios for all patrolling pcs making orange lights flashing on police beacons out of date [4.6]

1968 04 01

Panda cars introduced on set beats which also have 2 resident pcs working on them & collator [4.7]

1970 02 14

Garden House riot: police make truncheon charge against mob of undergraduates who surged forward pinning score constables against shattered plate-glass windows, £2,276 damage Garden House Hotel [369.22.12]

1970 06 01

Move new HQ, closing St Andrews St & Castle Hill [4.9]

1970 10 09

Parkside police station official opening – 70 10 09a

1970 10 13

Proctors not to attend student political demonstrations which take place off university premises; they will subject only to police and civil law – 70 10 13; students vote to end proctors – 70 10 13b

1971 07 10

Police 'deliberate campaign against homosexuals' [6.1]

1974 04

Change name back to Cambridgeshire Constabulary [4.10]

1975 10 30

“Cambridge Rapist” convicted following attacks between Oct 1974 & June 1975 [4.5]

1976 03 12

Police promise better liaison with gay community 76 03 12

1978 07 01

“Thin blue line halted rampaging city mob”; “in terms of quantity & quality Cambridge United have worst fans in the land” [15.7-8]

1979 10 17

Chief Supt Jock Proctor who did the most to contain the drugs problem in Cambridge retires from the police in December. In 1966 he formed a Drugs Squad to combat what was then a new and growing problem. Other agencies joined to set up a proper containment procedure which has been copied elsewhere. It was unheard of in those days for police, social workers and psychiatrists to meet together with addicts, parents and the clergy but soon a basis of trust was established and worried parents would take their youngsters to a police station for advice, rather than prosecution 79 10 17

1980 01 23

The Cambridge police Patrol Group was set up in 1977. It is allocated specific targets and is free to concentrate on them until the problems are solved. Following outbreaks of crime such as handbag snatching or stolen bicycles they will ‘flood’ an area in an intensive detection campaign. The results are impressive with 97 arrests in recent months and a drop of 400 in the number of crimes recorded last year coupled with an increase of 500 in the number of prisoners arrested. 80 01 23

1980 12 09

Cambridgeshire police will lose its cadet force and 35 extra officers it planned to cope with the increased population after £250,000 was cut from its budget. But this is half what had first been proposed. A ‘frightening’ number of police officers are leaving within two years of joining up; although it is a well-paid job young people today find the night duties and late turns upsetting 80 12 09

1983 09 12

Assistant Chief Constable Bernard Hotson is leaving the force after 37 years. He became internationally known as the man who led the hunt for the Cambridge rapist and also played an important part in the conviction of the Buckden murderer in 1968. He joined the Metropolitan Police in 1946, transferring to Ely three years later. He became head of the southern section of the CID based in Cambridge. He has had a very distinguished career and his knowledge of the county is second to none 83 09 12 p13

1984 01 04

Behind barred windows in Cambridge city police station there is an office that contains files on people of interest to the police and other branches of the security service. They are profiles of people who may have not committed a criminal act in their lives and are listed without their knowledge or consent. They include peace campaigners, trades union activists, journalists and civil rights organisers. Every foreigner coming to Cambridge must register at what is officially called ‘The Aliens Office’. Its other name is the Special Branch Office, because that’s what it is: all the information is made available to MI5 84 01 04 p13

1984 03 22

Twenty per cent of the Cambridgeshire police force is now away from the county helping control pickets at the Midlands coalfields. Five extra units, 110 men, leave today for Nottinghamshire, bringing to 200 the total number of county men involved in the operation. Four more are in Derbyshire helping to deal with the hundreds of miners protesting at pit closures. But Chief Supt

Hardingham has no worries about local policing in their absence and can deal with all the situations which may arise 84 03 22 p1 [4.14]

1984 06 05

Parkside extension needed [4.11]

1984 10 02

Cambridge is a city of fear because many police officers are being sent to the Midlands on miners' picket duties. At times there has been only one constable on patrol duty over the whole southern half of the city. Petty crime and vandalism is rising, councillors claim. Meanwhile Mrs Thatcher's arch critic Francis Pym made a bitter attack on the Government's handling of the strike at a News Literary Lunch 84 10 02 p1

1984 11 10

Police on duty during miners' strike 84 11 10

1984 11 29

PC Bob Reynolds dies, charity fundraiser – 84 11 29 & a

1985 11 15

Cambridge's experimental Neighbourhood Watch scheme involves some 500 houses in Chesterton and is aimed at giving the police back-up in their fight against crime. If residents spot something suspicious they get in touch with the street co-ordinator who notifies the Home Beat Officer. The area is going up market and the major problems are the annual influx of fair people and visitors to the 'Bumps' whose inconsiderate parking causes anger. 85 11 15b neighbourhood watch scheme, no.1 at Chesterton [4.14]

1986 07 18

Second neighbourhood watch established; first at Chesterton a year ago 86 07 18

1986 09 30

New prosecution system with creation of Crown Prosecution Service replacing Police 86 09 30 [3.20]

1988 02 18

Cambridge Detective Agency operates from a home in Madras Road. In high-tech Cambridge industrial espionage is a danger every research company faces and domestic violence cases can turn very nasty. The most frightening job was to serve an eviction order on a group of campers in Thetford Forest. They were Hell's Angels with a habit of firing crossbow bolts through pub windows. But much of the work is tracing people, insurance investigations and divorce enquiries. The detective's wardrobe contains not only a pin-stripe suit but a host of disguises essential for surveillance such as false beards, moustaches and sideburns. When the agency started four years ago there were four private 'tecs in the city, now it is the only one. 88 02 18 & a

1988 09 29

Major police force shake up £CEN 29.9.88

1990 06 06

Cambridgeshire Constabulary silver jubilee – feature – 90 06 06a, b

1997 04

Police buy helicopter, Apr [Rev]